



**Paul R. LePage**  
*Governor, State of Maine*

Paul K. Vestal, Chair  
Edwin P. Chester, Esq. Vice Chair

## **Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group**

MINUTES  
January 26, 2011

### **I. Roll Call:**

**Present:** Mark Boger, Ned Chester, Dalene Dutton, Jim Foss, Denise Giles, Jacinda Goodwin, Jamie Johnson, Charles LaVerdiere, Randall Liberty, Margaret Longworth, Jim Morse, Dan Nichols, Doug Patrick, Trish Shorey, Jonathan Shapiro, Barry Stoodley, Christine Thibeault, Paul Vestal and Patrick Walsh

**Absent:** Cathy McLoy Ashland, Richard, Brown, Joan McDonald, Nickole DeMerritt, Hannah McMullen, Abigail Comee-McCourt, Shelley Reed and Adam Royer

**Staff:** Kathryn McGloin, Damon Lefferts, Elaine Brann

**Guest:** Maryann Harkall, Underage Drinking Task Force  
Noël Bonam, by phone from India

Paul Vestal, JJAG Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M and welcomed the JJAG Members. Paul and asked new JJAG member, Randall Liberty, to introduce himself and tell the Committee a little bit about himself.

### **II. Minutes:**

The minutes for the December 1st JJAG meeting were approved.

**Motion:** To approve the December 1st, 2010 Minutes

**Moved:** Jim Morse/Dan Nichols/2nd.

**Action:** Approved

### **III. Chair Report:**

Paul stated that the CJJ dues are due and asked for a motion to pay CJJ the dues.

**Motion:** To approve payment of \$5,000 for CJJ dues

**Moved:** Ned Chester/Christine Thibeault/2nd

**Action:** Approved

Paul stated that he and Joan McDonald attended the Underage Drinking Task Force meeting and he had some concerns with their proposal and JJAG's 3 Year Plan. Paul explained that the task force was very much into enforcement and JJAG's mission is to get kids out of the system. Paul then introduced Maryann Harkall, Chair of the Underage Drinking Task Force and asked her to provide

the Committee with information about the task force and its proposal as it relates to JJAG.

Maryann explained the work and mission of the task force and agreed with Paul that it was very much an enforcement agency, but she also stated that both could work together and clarified that the task force also wanted to keep kids out of the system but at the same time wanted kids to know that there are consequences for their behavior.

Ned Chester expressed his concerns regarding legal issues and gave an example of a kid being pulled over for drinking and law enforcement finding a joint of Marijuana in the car. The juvenile would be charged with illegally transporting drugs and that would show up permanently on the juvenile's public driving record.

Maryann assured members that the push of the task force was not just to adjudicate, but to make kids aware of the consequences of their actions.

There was a lengthy discussion and other problems and issues of underage drinking were brought up by members:

- Grownups providing access
- Business perspective
- Focus energy in wrong place by victimizing kids for parents behavior
- Poor kids being arrested more than middle class kids.
- Tolerance policy doesn't work, schools creating more problems.
- Danger of being over zealous
- No tools to help child to understand danger of alcohol. No resources. Enforcement without tools is not adequate.

Maryann stated that there was a push to incorporate this into the JJAG's Three Year Plan and asked for approval.

Paul asked members if they wanted to incorporate this into JJAG's Three Year Plan and called for a motion.

**Motion:** That we approve the Underage Drinking Task Force's proposal and incorporate it into the JJAG's Three Year Plan.

**Moved:** Christine Thibeault/Patrick Walsh/2nd.

**Action:** Approved

Paul continued with the next item for discussion which was Focus Group Questions and suggested that this be delayed for the last meeting of the summer.

Paul then brought up the JABG funding and asked Barry to discuss JABG.

Barry gave everyone an explanation of JABG (Juvenile Accountability Block Grant)

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and explained that Maine JJAG serves as the State Advisory Committee for the JABG. Barry stated that kids are coming into our system in significant numbers with trauma. JABG focus on three areas:

1. Trauma Assessment – system which gives kids tools to respond to and identify triggers. Performance Based Standards
2. Detention and
3. Diversion

Barry also explained the funding process and JJAG's role in dispersing the funds. Need to vote on whether or not to continue the waiver. Paul asked if members wanted to vote on this now or wait until the next meeting. Since time was limited, Paul asked Barry to send out the information and it will be put on the agenda for next month.

#### **IV. DMC Update – Noël Bonam by phone from India:**

Noël called in his report by phone from India and updated the Committee with some of the highlights on what has been happening with DMC since last meeting. Noël explained that some people were getting confused at what DMC priorities are and that the DMC is not addressing the whole state just Cumberland County.

- Noël talked about the agenda of the four meetings and the common themes and recommendations that emerged from those meetings. The DMC has met some major goals for next year.
- The Cumberland County Subcommittee discussed gaps in who was missing at the meeting and found that there was no representation from the mental health community.
- They have a Youth Advisory Council and have 9 active members in a range of diversity and diverse backgrounds, including youth who are on probation.
- Town Hall Meetings, one held in December and one in January. One was for providers and the second one was Muskie on data presented. Many great suggestions came out of both meetings. Other Town Hall meetings are planned with parents and community leaders. Need to work through structures of community. Received a lot of feedback from both groups.
- Need to look at Education, and youth life as it relates to juvenile justice and lack of opportunities outside of school.
- Looking to get training at end of March – April, two day long workshops.

Noël stated that the one thing that he didn't get done was the Youth Member Newsletter due to some technical difficulties, but he is hoping to send that out next week. Noel also requested funding in the amount of \$6,500 for the Racism training program.

**Motion:** To provide funding in the amount of \$6,500 for Racism Program

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**Moved:** Ned Chester/Jacinda Goodwin/2nd.

**Action:** Approved

## **V. Juvenile Justice Specialist Report:**

Kathryn reported that CPS is moving ahead. Dr. Greene will select communities by end of this month.

Kathryn stated that after checking with Betty Lamoreau from the Division of Purchases, since no one applied for the CPS RFP, we can move ahead and select the schools we want. Dr. Greene personally called all the schools that downloaded the RFP and came up with five that would be good candidates for the CPS Program. Some of the schools that are being considered are York, Kittery, Freeport, Mt. Desert and Caribou.

Gail McKenney, who handles our JJAG account, has retired and we have a new accountant Sherri Watson.

OJJDP training will be in Maryland and Noel Bonam and Dr. Ross Greene will be doing some workshops.

We do have an intern, Kellie McKenney, a UMA student. She will be working on data for the “five facts in forty seconds,” and the Plan update. Kathryn also reminded JJAG Members to stop in and see the photo exhibit from Trekkers.

Kathryn talked about her visit at the Goodwill Hinckley School and how impressed she was with their alternative school program. This program is headed up by Emanuel Pariser. They are interested in applying to us for an RFP.

The change from the Maine Youth Drug and Alcohol Use Survey (MYDAUS) to the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS) has made evaluation of a program difficult for some of our subgrantees. Dalene and Kathryn are working on retrieving some of the scales lost in the change. They are, for the most part, risk and protective factors. A discussion will take place at the February meeting.

## **VI. Compliance Monitoring:**

Damon Lefferts gave members an update on the Effective Police Interactions with Youth (EPIY) Train the Trainer program and stated that 13 agencies are committed. The first day of the training is for 30 officers and is the basic course. Days two and three are the TOT training for ten officers interested in training others. We will try to do the same training in August. This training has a focus on refugee and minority youth.

Damon stated that he and Jim Foss have been working on transport issues.

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opening a Temporary Holding Resource (THR) at Aroostook County Jail. This will allow juveniles to be held over at the Jail for a longer period of time thus saving transportation costs, no violations, saving the County money and keeping the juveniles safe.

## **VI. Committee Reports:**

Patrick – FACJ

Patrick stated that FACJ is done and he received a certificate signed by Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr., who was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Patrick stated that OJJDP is trying to move to a different body. OJJDP wants to have another group of 40 people.

Ned – Restorative Justice

Ned stated that he has sent out information on the Restorative Justice Program for members to take a look at for later discussion.

Christine – Legislation: Adam Walsh Act

Christine updated everyone on the Adam Walsh legislation and stated there is one change in the interpretation that applies to juveniles. States may opt out of web-based registry. Christine stated that she and Kathryn did a brief presentation to the legislative Juvenile Justice and Public Safety Committee. Christine stated that they were interested in what we do early on.

Christine also stated that she attended the CLAC (Criminal Law Advisory Committee) meeting. The subject of competency was raised and there was much discussion by several members.

Judge LaVerdiere expressed his concerns that there were no programs or options for him to refer kids to when they come before the court and suggested that there be some kind of legislation to set up a cascade of options and resources of what everyone knows ahead of time so that these options are available when kids come to court. Also discussed:

- No locked psychiatric facilities that will accept juveniles in Maine
- Money big issue
- Risk Assessments – How to identify high risk kids

## **VII. Adjourn:**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

**The next meeting will be February 23, 2011 at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.**

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